

REMARKS

Claims 20-23 have been cancelled. Twenty (20) claims are pending and remain for consideration. All rejections are respectfully traversed. Favorable reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Election/Restriction

Applicants acknowledge that claims 20-23 have been withdrawn from further consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Claims 20-23 are hereby cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Oath/Declaration

Applicants acknowledge the requirement for an amended oath/declaration. An amended oath/declaration is attached hereto.

35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 4, 6-7, 10, 13-17 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,272,887, issued to Sullivan. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 14, 20 and 24 require an element having a profile with a variable height including at least one apex. Sullivan discloses an inverted V-shaped gusset for supporting a screen, and claims a screen support but the support does not have a variable height with at least one apex.

Attached is a declaration signed by all the inventors. The declaration establishes that any invention disclosed but not claimed by Sullivan was derived from the inventors of this application and is thus not the invention by another. The submission of this declaration obviates the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn and that the claims be passed on for allowance.

35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103, as being unpatentable over Sullivan in view of SU 618,346, to Markov. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 12 depends from claim 1, which is believed to be allowable over Sullivan for at least the reasons set forth above. Markov fails to cure the deficiencies in Sullivan. Consequently, claim 12 should be allowable. Favorable reconsideration of the claim 12 is respectfully requested.

In view of the attached declaration and above remarks, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.